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United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit
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NEWS RELEASE

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Court of Appeals Schedules Special Sitting at University of San Diego

SAN FRANCISCO – The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit will hold a special sitting February 22 at the University of San Diego, School of Law. Oral arguments will be heard in the Grace Courtroom on the 3rd Floor at 1 p.m. A photo ID will be required to enter the courtroom.

An appellate panel consisting of Senior Circuit Judge David R. Thompson and Circuit Judge M. Margaret McKeown, both of San Diego, and Circuit Judge Marsha S. Berzon of San Francisco will consider an appeal in the following case:

- *Alday v. Raytheon*, in which Raytheon Co. appeals the grant of summary judgement by the U.S. District Court for the District of Arizona in an action under ERISA and the Labor Management Relations Act filed by a class of early retirees from Raytheon's defense plant in Tucson, Arizona. Hughes Missile Systems Co. and later Raytheon entered into a series of collective bargaining agreements with the retirees' union. The four collective bargaining agreements at issue provided for "free" health care benefits, but in 2004 Raytheon began charging the retirees a share of the cost of coverage. The retirees contended that the collective bargaining agreement ensured that they would have company-paid health care coverage until age 65.

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals hears appeals of cases decided by executive branch agencies and federal trial courts in nine western states and two Pacific Island jurisdictions. The court normally meets monthly in Seattle, San Francisco and Pasadena, California; every other month in Portland, Oregon; three times per year in Honolulu, Hawaii; and twice a year in Anchorage, Alaska. A complete schedule of cases is available online at <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov>.